



State of California
Respiratory Care Board

444 North 3rd Street, Suite 270
Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone (916) 323-9983
Fax (916) 323-9999
www.rcb.ca.gov



March 25, 2002

Inquiry: Who may set up an oxygen concentrator or compressed gas system in a patient's home other than a respiratory therapist? For example, could an EMT, LPN, Physicians Assistant, Pharmacy Tech, etc. be employed to set up this type of equipment, provide basic instruction on how to turn it on, adjust liter flow, clean the filter and place the cannula, if under the supervision of a CRT?

Response: Unlicensed personal are not authorized to administer any form of respiratory care. This includes, but is not limited to, set-up or application of devices to a patient, instruction in the use of the equipment for the purpose of deriving an intended medical benefit prescribed by a physician. Only licensed Respiratory Care Practitioners can perform this practice. It is also acceptable for other licensed personnel to perform these functions as long as they are authorized by their respective licensing statute to practice respiratory care. Unlicensed persons are prohibited from practicing respiratory care in the State of California.

To determine which licensed personal may perform respiratory care you will need to contact their individual licensing board for clarification.

Reference # 2002-C-11